

## ST. LOUIS PLATFORM.

Democratic National Convention  
Announces Its Principles.Many New Issues Brought Out—Cap-  
ital and Labor—Freedom of the  
Press, Conscience and Speech  
and Other Topics.

The following platform was adopted by the democratic national convention at St. Louis:

The Democratic party of the United States, in national convention assembled, declare devotion to the essential principles of the democratic faith which bring it together in party communion.

We, the delegates of the democratic party of the United States, in national convention assembled, declare our devotion to the essential principles of the democratic faith which bring us together in party communion.

Under them local self-government and national unity and prosperity were alike established. They underlie our independence, the structure of our free republic, and every democratic extension, from Louisiana to California, and Texas to Oregon, which preserves faithfully in all the states the tie between taxation and representation. They yet inspire the masses of our people, guarding jealously their rights and liberties, and cherishing their fraternity, peace and orderly development. They remind us of our duties and responsibilities to posterity, and impress upon us, particularly at this time, the necessity of reform and the rescue of the administration or government from the disastrous, arbitrary and spasmodic methods which distract business by uncertainty and pervade the public mind with dread, distrust and perturbation.

1.—The application of these fundamental principles to the living issues of the day constitutes the first step toward the assured peace, safety and progress of our nation. Freedom of the press, of conscience and of speech; equality before the law of all citizens; the right of trial by jury; freedom of the person defended by the writ of habeas corpus; liberty of personal contract, untrammelled by sumptuary laws; the supremacy of the civil over the military authority; a well disciplined militia; the separation of church and state; economy in expenditures; low taxes, that labor may be lightly burdened; the prompt and sacred fulfillment of public and private obligations; fidelity to treaties; peace and friendship with all nations; entangling alliances with none; absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority, the vital principle of republicanism; these are doctrines which democracy has established, approved by the nation, and they should be constantly invoked, and enforced.

We favor the enactment and administration of laws, giving labor and capital impartially their just rights. Capital and labor ought not to be enemies. Each is necessary to the other, and each has rights, but the rights of labor are certainly no less "vested," no less "sacred," and no less "inalienable" than the rights of capital.

Constitutional guarantees are violated whenever any citizen is denied the right to labor, acquire and enjoy property or reside where interest of inclination may determine. Any denial thereof by individuals, organizations or governments should be summarily rebuked and punished.

We deny the right of any executive to disregard or suspend any constitutional privilege or limitation. Obedience to the laws and respect for their requirements are alike the supreme duty of citizen and official. The military should be used only to support and to maintain the law. We unqualifiedly condemn its employment for the summary banishment of citizens without trial, or for the control of elections.

We approve the measure which passed the United States Senate in 1896, but which a republican congress has ever since refused to enact, relating to contempt in Federal courts and providing for trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt.

We favor the liberal appropriations for the care and improvement of the waterways of the country. When any waterway like the Mississippi river is of sufficient importance to demand special aid of the government, such aid should be extended with a definite plan of continuous work until permanent improvement is secured. We oppose the republican policy of starving home development in order to feed the greed for conquest, and the appetite for national "prestige" and display of strength.

Large reductions can easily be made in the annual expenditures of the government, without impairing the efficiency of any branch of the public service, and we shall insist upon the strictest economy and frugality compatible with vigorous and efficient, civil, military and naval administration as a right of the people too clear to be denied or withheld.

2.—The enforcement of honesty in the public service, and to that end a thorough legislative investigation of those executive departments of the government already known to them with corruption, as well as other departments suspected of harboring corruption, and the punishment of ascertained corruptionists without fear or favor or regard to persons. The persistent and deliberate refusal of both the senate and house of representatives to permit such investigation to be made demonstrates that only by a change in the executive and in the legislative department can complete exposure, punishment and correction be obtained.

We condemn the action of the republican party in congress in refusing to prohibit an executive department from entering into contracts with convicted trusts or unlawful combinations in restraint of interstate trade. We believe that one of the greatest dangers to the economy and honesty in the public service is to have public officials, from the occupant of the white house down to the lowest of the petty officials, who may be, to Jeffersonian simplicity of living.

3.—We favor the nomination and election of a president imbued with the principles of the constitution, who will set his face sternly against executive usurpation of legislative and judicial functions whether that usurpation be veiled under the guise of executive construction of existing laws, or whether it take refuge in the tyrant's plea of necessity or superior wisdom.

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## CARS TELESCOPED.

Seventeen People Killed and  
About One Hundred Injured.Engine of Second Train Tore Through  
Rear Car of the First Train and  
Drove the Front End Into  
the Car Ahead.

New York, July 11.—Seventeen persons were killed and about a hundred injured in a collision which occurred at Midvale, N. J., just before noon Sunday when a regular passenger train on the Greenwood branch of the Erie railroad ran into an excursion train that had stopped to take water. All the dead and injured lived in Hoboken, Jersey City and New York.

The accident is believed to have resulted from a tower operator having lowered his signal too soon, and this was admitted by D. W. Cooke, general passenger agent of the Erie railroad, who gave out a statement in which he said: "The operator in the tower failed to set the block signal against the train following."

The train which was run into was a special carrying members of the First Plattdeuter association of Hoboken on their annual outing and had 800 passengers. It consisted of 12 cars and two engines. The first engine had taken water and the train had moved up and stopped with the second engine beside the tank when the regular train drew near. The flagman of the special signalled the engineer of the incoming train but owing to a curve in the road his flag was not seen until it was too late. It is claimed that the engineer of the regular train had slowed down to about ten miles an hour before he crashed into the special but his engine tore through the rear car the greater part of its length and drove the forward end of that car into the car ahead. The killed and injured were in those two cars.

The wreckage did not catch fire and the work of taking out the dead and maimed was accomplished quickly. The passengers from the uninjured coaches ran back and joined in the work and the residents of Midvale, many of whom had heard the crash, assisted them. The 14 dead were soon laid beside the track and the injured were carried to the nearby houses.

While physicians were being sent for women of Midvale brought bandages and other articles that could be used in caring for the injured. An engine and cars were sent from Little Falls to the scene of the wreck and as rapidly as possible the most seriously hurt were prepared for transportation by train to Little Falls and thence to Jersey City or Hoboken. The less severely hurt were continued under treatment in Midvale until later in the day. All those hurt were eventually taken either to their homes or to hospitals.

The engineer and fireman of the regular train disappeared from the scene just after the accident. They both escaped injury by jumping just before the crash.

The operator in the tower was Walter Richards. He would make no statement and was relieved and left the scene soon after the accident.

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W. J. BRYAN ILL.

His Physicians Say There is Nothing  
Alarming in His Condition.

St. Louis, July 11.—Mr. Bryan left the Jefferson hotel early Sunday and went to the residence of his cousin, Dr. Jennings, in this city. His physician says his condition was much improved over Saturday and he expects to leave for his home in Lincoln Monday night.

When Mr. Bryan left his bed Saturday night to go to the convention hall his temperature was above 100, and he complained of much soreness of the lungs. He was examined after the close of the convention by Dr. Osborne, who decided there was nothing alarming in Mr. Bryan's condition and that a quiet rest would quickly restore him to his usual good health.

His appearance at the convention hall was in opposition to the commands of his physician and contrary to the wishes of his friends. He left his bed at a time when his attendants were absent from the room, and in doing so created no little alarm for his safety.

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We condemn the action of the republican party in congress in refusing to prohibit an executive department from entering into contracts with convicted trusts or unlawful combinations in restraint of interstate trade. We believe that one of the greatest dangers to the economy and honesty in the public service is to have public officials, from the occupant of the white house down to the lowest of the petty officials, who may be, to Jeffersonian simplicity of living.

3.—We favor the nomination and election of a president imbued with the principles of the constitution, who will set his face sternly against executive usurpation of legislative and judicial functions whether that usurpation be veiled under the guise of executive construction of existing laws, or whether it take refuge in the tyrant's plea of necessity or superior wisdom.

We favor the preservation, so far as we can, of an open door for the world's commerce in the orient, without unnecessary entanglement in oriental and European affairs, and without any unlimited, irresponsible and absolute government anywhere within our jurisdiction. We oppose, as fervently as did George Washington himself, any indefinite, irresponsible, discretionary and vague absorption and a policy of colonial exploitation, no matter where or by whom invoked or exercised. We believe, as Jefferson and John Adams did, that government has a right to make one set of laws for those at home, and a different set of laws, absolute in their character, for those "in the colonies." All men under the American flag are entitled to the protection of the institutions whose emblem the flag is; if they are inherently unfit for those institutions, then they are inherently unfit to be members of the American body politic. Wherever there may exist a people incapable of being governed under American laws in consonance with the American constitution, the territory of that people ought not to be part of the American domain.

We insist that we ought to do for the Filipinos what we have already done for the Cubans. And it is our intent, as soon as it can be done, to give to the common country means of confederation, distraction of business, and the re-opening of wounds now happily healed. North, south, east and west have been recently joined in the one battle of the walls of Peking to the hills of San-